Record Crowd Hears Robin Wood Concert

Largest audience in the history of Sunday afternoon concerts by the Victoria Symphony Orchestra was in attendance at the performance this weekend.

The fact that Robin Wood, one of the guest artists, is a native of Victoria may well have something to do with this state of affairs.

The program opened with Bach's concerto for two pianos and string orchestra, C-minor. Here Mr. Wood was joined by his wife, Winnifred Scott, formerly of Winnipeg but now, like her husband, a staff member at the Royal Academy in London.

Beethoven's "Pastorale" Symphony, No. 6, completed the first part of the program. As pointed out by Mr. Graham Steed in his program notes, one of the features of this composition is its "studied air of casualness . . . the hardest thing to recreate in performance."

The Sunday performance found all the desired effects such as bird-calls and distant thunder present and correct but quite a few of them tended to insularity instead of seeming to be part of a cohesive whole.

With Robin Wood as soloist, Brahms' No. 2 concerto for piano and orchestra occupied the whole second part of the program.

This was a sheer joy. The concerto is a tremendous work; it's in the category described by Brahms himself as "not for little girls." Yet Mr. Wood, deft, crisp, fluent and by means of unexcelled volume transitions, provided such a finished performance that the total effect was as easy as it was beautiful. This is the most consummate artistry.

Mr. and Mrs. Wood appear again in recital at Oak Bay Junior High School Feb. 4, sponsored by the Victoria Musical Art Society.

The next pair of symphony concerts follow Feb. 8 and 9. The guest artist will be contralto Maureen Forrester, an internationally known concert artist. Victoria's "Meistersingers" will be the assisting male chorus.

★ ★ ★

ROBIN WOOD
. . . deft, crisp, fluent

★ ★ ★

Weekend Rash

Cars, Garages Theft Targets

Parked cars and service stations were principal targets in a series of weekend thefts in Victoria.

A car belonging to Mrs. A. J. Gillis, 1887 Carnarvon, was broken into Saturday night behind the Britannia Legion Branch on Blanshard. A briefcase containing cheques and printed matter in the name of First Investors Ltd. was stolen.

On Sunday, O. Waltzer, Craigflower Auto Court, told police a wheel and tire were removed from his car at Fisgard and Store, and some of the material from the Gillis car left in his.

Glen Harrington, 564 Dallas, also had a wheel and tire taken from his car while parked outside his home.

During the weekend thieves entered the Hollywood Park Service Station, 1600 Fairfield, by breaking the glass in a transom. They stole about $44 in cash, three batteries and a number of flashlight batteries.

Ed and Austy's Service, Quadra and Broughton, was also broken into by a window during the weekend, and flashlight batteries and spark plugs stolen.

A report to police from Kingham-Gillespie Co. Ltd. said a truck apparently had been driven through a wire gate into their yard at 747 Tyee, and an unknown amount of sacked coal was stolen.

A tire and wheel were stolen from the car of Harry Rounds, Westholme Hotel, by someone who forced the car's trunk while it was parked behind the hotel during the weekend.

John Poulton, 1018 Park, told police sample gold and silver armed services badges were stolen from his car in a briefcase. Value of the badges was about $200.

Water Mains First New Saanich Plan

A new policy adopted by Saanich council virtually forces subdividers to install water main services at their own cost before they can sell their lots.

The only "out" allowed for a subdivider is to make his lots a minimum of 16,800 square feet in size.

But if the subdivider wants to cut up his land into lots smaller than 16,800 square feet, down to the housing lot size of 8,400 square feet, he has to install water.

A subdivider can install the water service himself, but only under council supervision, municipal engineer Neville Life explained last night.

Or the council will do the work at cost for the subdivider.

Previous policy of council was to install water services under local improvement petitions by occupants of the lots after they had been sold by the subdivider.

Driver Fined, Licence Lost

A Duncan woman, tried last week in city police court on a charge of impaired driving, was found guilty yesterday by Magistrate William Ostler.

Fine of $250 was assessed against Dorothy McNaughton, who was also prohibited from driving for one year.

Her offence took place last Nov. 21, when she was stopped by a Victoria officer on Langley Street.

Asian Evangelist To Speak Here

East Indian evangelist Bakht Singh, a convert to Christianity in 1932, will give a series of adresses at the Alliance Tabernacle, 1039 Yates. In past years he has travelled throughout India preaching. He will speak here at 7.30 p.m. weekdays and 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday.

NORTH POLE HOP

First airplane flight to the North Pole was made by Floyd Bennett and Richard Byrd from Spitsbergen in 1926.

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Cougars 9.30-10.30 a.m.
Army (Comm.) 10.30-11.30 a.m.
Navy (Comm.) 11.30-12.30 p.m.
V.F.S.C. 3.30-5.30 p.m.
Minor Hockey 5.30-6.30 p.m.
V.F.S.C. 7.30-9.30 p.m.
Civil Service 9.30-10.30 p.m.
Royal Roads 10.30-11.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JAN. 20
Minor Hockey 7.00-8.30 a.m.
Cougars 9.30-10.30 a.m.
Venture 2.15-3.15 p.m.
Public Skating 4.00-6.00 p.m.
Beginners 4.00-6.00 p.m.
Commercial Hockey—
Navy vs. Vics 7.30 p.m.
Army vs. Aces 9.00 p.m.
Victoria Press 10.30-11.30 p.m.

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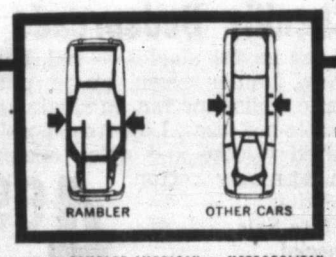

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"Reach for the Sky" 8.15
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